

# ON THE REVIEWER'S TABLE

Autobiography of John E. Massey.

Edited by Elizabeth H. Hancock. The Neale Publishing Company, of New York and Washington, D. C. \$2.00 net. John E. Massey, born April 2, 1819, died April 24, 1891, was, in the course of his long and useful life, schoolmaster, lawyer, Baptist preacher, farmer and orator. He held office in Virginia as member of the House of Delegates and of the Senate, as Auditor of Public Accounts, Lieutenant-Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was elected member of the "last State Constitutional Convention," but died before the meeting of that body. He was known as the "Father of Readjusterism," and as the author of the Massey coupon bill, and was a local option and temperance advocate, writer.

Thus a biographical sketch of "Parson" Massey might begin; but a book, and a large one at that, is essential to a full understanding of a forceful Virginian of the last century. There are numbers of Virginians who should be interested in these reminiscences, irrespective of their own opinions as to the merits of the issues that were involved in the period covered by the book. Indeed, the unique personality of the author so dominates the book as to render it of general interest.

Miss Hancock, in a foreword in the volume, says: "I hope that without prejudice I have assembled in this book all of Mr. Massey's material of public interest. I say without prejudice, for I would have been a debt-paying Democrat if I had been old enough, while all the members of my family gave their political strength to defeat the Readjuster movement. In building the book, as I think Mr. Massey would have done, giving a connected history of Readjusterism from the point of view of the 'Father of Readjusterism,' as far as possible in the 'parson's' own vigorous language, I have endeavored to portray the unique personality of one of the most important of the persons that dominated the political life of Virginia during the last century."

Mr. Massey in recording his "Early Impressions," mentions that when he entered Richmond College, then the Virginia Baptist Seminary, in 1836, he walked most of the sixty miles separating his home in Spotsylvania county from the seminary. He gives the name of his first ministerial charge as Ketchikan Church, the oldest Baptist Church in Virginia. He made his entrance into political life in 1873, when he was elected to the Legislature from Albemarle county. He says of his "coupon bill" that "few measures were ever opposed more vigorously than this was. While the vote was taken on its passage it was defeated by a small majority—two or three."

Major Horace Lacy, of Spotsylvania,

arose to a question of personal privilege.

"I understand," said he, "that the gentleman from Albemarle—Mr. Massey—is to be buried, and that the silver-tongued orator from Augusta is to deliver his funeral oration. I claim the text from which he is to deliver it. I want his text to be 'The Resurrection of the Just.' You may bury the gentleman from Albemarle, but he will rise again, and Virginia will rise with him!"

Mr. Massey was a candidate for nomination as Governor of Virginia in 1881. He explains that his friends, numbering from 350 to 400, declared they would nominate him or break up the convention. He quietly then rose to the convention and said: "I suppose no one will deny that Readjusterism is my child, my haunting, I brought it into existence, I nursed it in its infancy. I trained it in its youth. I counseled it in its manhood, and I am not willing to see it killed in its maturity. Give all to the other man! I ask my friends to vote for William E. Cameron." They did so and he was nominated.

Regarding a Democratic convention held in Lynchburg in 1881, to reorganize the party, Mr. Massey has this to say: "A committee of thirty members—three from each congressional district—was appointed to draft a platform. That committee, after a brief conference, committed the work to a subcommittee, composed of Major Kelley, Major Daniel and myself. Major Kelley and I differed on three points. He finally yielded two of them, but would not consent to my views on the third. We discussed it until after sundown. When all other members of the committee returned we submitted our contention to them—the whole committee. Major Kelley and I did not vote, but the other twenty members voted unanimously for my resolution. The platform was reported to the convention and unanimously adopted."

Before the gubernatorial convention of 1881, Mr. Massey declared: "I am a friend of general education. I would like to see every child in Virginia educated, provided it can be done fairly, honestly and justly; but I am tired of seeing white men taxed to educate negroes, who show their ingratitude by arraying themselves against us at every election. 'I want the taxes paid by white people applied to the education of white children; and those paid by negroes applied to the education of negro children. Let them have, in addition to the taxes they pay, every dollar that is given to them voluntarily, no matter by whom; but don't compel the honest, industrious white man of Virginia, who is unable to educate their own children, to educate negro children, whose fathers are not willing to pay so much as their capitation tax—one dollar—which is dedicated exclusively to the public free schools.'"

Throughout its entire length the book under consideration reflects the indomitable spirit of the man whose

life history it gives. Those who knew Mr. Massey personally and those who are acquainted with him only through the history of his political career, will be alike eager to read the "Autobiography," which bears the decided impress of his personality and dwells on such important events and issues in State history.

The Goose Girl.

By Harold MacGrath. Illustrations by Andre Castaigne. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, of Indianapolis, Ind. \$1.50. The taste of the reading world of late has turned decidedly to novels of adventure and action. Appreciating this fact, Mr. MacGrath has written a dainty and charmingly pictured work of fiction, under the title of "The Goose Girl."

Marshaling her flock of birds, wearing wooden shoes and able only to claim the protection of an aged foster-mother, whom she calls grandmother, the "Goose Girl" nevertheless is presented to the reader as having hair the color of the heart of a chestnut burr, and mystifying hazel eyes, sometimes brown and sometimes gray, as possessing a modesty, gentleness and purity that set her apart from the peasant girls to whom she might otherwise belong by virtue of her humble occupation and her coarse homespun clothing.

The ancient town of Dreiburg, in a little German duchy, is the setting for the story. A mystery connected with the abduction of the grand duke's daughter, her discovery and restoration by the chancellor, Count von Herbeck, supply the elements for a mystery that is kept until the end of the novel is reached.

The tone of the book is altogether romantic, it being entirely removed from the money-getting, money-loving atmosphere of the present-day American. One of the best characters in the story is a diplomat, an Irishman by birth and Carmichael by name, who is the representative of the United States government, and hopelessly in love with the daughter of the Duke of Dreiburg, the Princess Hildegard. Another interesting personality appears as Hans Grumbach, of New York.

The political rival of the Grand Duke of Dreiburg is the King of Jugendhelt. The duke hates the king, but is persuaded by Count von Herbeck to seek an alliance with him for the Princess Hildegard.

Just how apparent impossibilities are finally reconciled, how at last both the "Goose Girl" and the princess are wedded to lovers of their choice, how Hans Grumbach clears up a long-standing mystery with the help of a gipsy, and a tiny scar on a girl's white arm becomes an important link in a chain of identifications, must be read in order that the author's skill in relation to them and the full flavor of his romance may be fully appreciated.

Mr. MacGrath has written a clean, sweet, wholesome piece of fiction, and is to be congratulated on the manner of his doing it.

The End of the Road.

By Stanley Portal Hyatt. D. Appleton & Co., of New York, \$1.50. Southern Africa, with the barren dreariness of its high veldts, its Koje country, its meadlands, its vast stretches of yellow brown-grown grass and its eternal northward trek, has the allurements of the primal, the terrors and the fascination of the unknown.

"The Story of An African Farm," first revealed to the world outside the possibilities and the tragedies of South African existence. "The End of the Road" harks back to the days of the transport riders, their ox teams and their Basuto drivers, and to the brotherhood of the road, that proved more potent than racial antagonisms between Briton and Boer. The hero of this African story is John Allingham, an Englishman, who went to South Africa as an assistant engineer on one of the outlying Transvaal mines, and, during of the months of the company's work, developed into a successful transport rider, probably because he ran his wagons on common-sense principles instead of deferring to the custom of the country. As the wagons did most of the hauling for the mines in the line of the railway, the opportunities of a shrewd business man like Allingham were considerable. The description of life on the road, with its journeys, which says on, in which mines and townships, and of the loadings, are merely incidents by the way, is full of interest and novelty. So is the picture drawn of the mines with their changing mills, their blatant, galvanized buildings and the yellow-faced, weary-eyed men composing their staff.

After reading of these and of a South African town like Port Alexander, the causes why men who go from civilized life to a country deteriorate so quickly and easily are not hard to understand.

On the other hand, the tragedy enveloping the native savage, with his knobsticks and his many eurs, touches the heart, and when one reads of the fate of such a native African as Malongosa, the headman from the village at Five-Mile Water, John Allingham, as transport rider, somewhat unmindful of the amenities of civilization though he may be, is a picturesque enough figure. But John Allingham, married and drinking too much during solitary evenings in England, is rather tawdry and commonplace. When he arouses himself and goes back to Africa in response to the call of the road, and finds the railway almost up to the Zambesi River, and that there is no real transport any more, and when he sees, as the results of the march of progress and civilization, a tangle of wild some piles of ashes, a tangle of wild pumpkins, a childless and heart-broken old man shivering under a shoddy trail blanket, and, in the distance, a tall grinding out dividends for shareholders, he is a thousand miles away, he is satisfied to make a compromise with life and take his wife back to England. After all, he but fulfills the common destiny of humanity in so doing.

A Charming Humbug.

By Inogen Clark. E. P. Rutton & Co., of New York, \$1.50. The charming humbug of the book is by name Agatha Calvert, and has her home in Portman Square, London. She is a humbug because she insists on taking the place of her former mistress, who is laid up with a sprained ankle, and going as a governess, while she is really an heiress, to the home of Mrs. Peter Vaughan in rural England, where she "comes, sees and conquers" like Charles

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of old, every one she meets, and most

of all her little pupil, Billy Vaughan.

The whimsical little romance is prettily told, and cleverly. Agatha justifies her name, and when the right moment comes boldly confesses that she is an impostor. Needless to say, that she is promptly forgiven, and that her escapade works good instead of harm, inasmuch as it rights a wrong done years before and makes the "Charming Humbug" and several other people happy.

The Black Flier.

By Edith Macvane. Moffat, Yard & Co., of New York, \$1.50. Imagine a man, and an American at that, who, when the hour arrives for the celebration of his nuptials to a beautiful and highly connected English girl, discovers an irregularity in his license and finds no way of making the mistake good except by going to a nearby clerk in a nearby town, while the bride in veil and orange blossoms, with an assembled company, await his return.

Imagine his path blocked by a hedge that he cannot get around, and that he has run up against in his distracted haste. Then imagine him climbing a post of vantage from which he expects to jump over the hedge, his foot support falling him and his getting a heavy fall into a hard highway with a cut on his forehead and a badly twisted ankle, which prevents him from rising. Then, while he lays half senseless and in great pain, imagine him being borne down upon by a pretty woman in a big black touring car, and whisked away into Scotland without a moment in which

to explain himself to the waiting

bride he has left behind.

Now, what could a man do or say under such conditions to clear himself from blame, and to explain away further and more serious complications connected with his enforced trip in the "Black Flier?"

The only way for you to solve the

mystery is to read the book and find out.

## BOOK AND MAGAZINE NOTES.

Feature of Pageant.

One of the most interesting features of the Bath Pageant, recently presented in England, was the episode contributed by Mrs. Spencer Trask in honor of the American towns named Bath. This episode was written, with the exception of the Peace Hymn at the close, in blank verse, a medium in which Mrs. Trask showed her skill when she attracted the attention of the literary world in England and the United States as the anonymous author of the poetic drama, "King Alfred's Jewel," which is now in its second edition. The text of "Mrs. Trask's Peace Hymn," which was sung to the national anthem common to the English-speaking world, is as follows:

And folk upon the earth  
Sprang from one common birth,  
Children of God,  
Lord of humanity,  
Teach us fraternity,  
Peace let the watchword be  
In all the earth.

"The New New York."

September 8 is the date announced for the publication of "The New New York," the book in which Professor John Van Dyke and Joseph Pennell have endeavored to describe the ever-changing city. It will be by far the most elaborate work of the kind that has yet appeared. Mr. Pennell's pictures of New York have long been regarded by connoisseurs as among the best of his works, and in "The New New York" there are no less than 124 of his illustrations. Of these, twenty-six are in color, the others full-page drawings in black and white.

The text of the book is remarkable not only for a keen analysis and vivid description of the city as it is today, but for a vision of a not so remote future when New York shall have come into its own. As Prof. Van Dyke sees it, New York is destined to be like no other city on the globe. With amazing rapidity it is being rebuilt on a scale so colossal that few of us have grasped any of its significance. Fascinating though the vision is, it has not blinded Professor Van Dyke to the present. He knows the city as few men do, and in addition, he knows how to tell of his knowledge. With Mr. Pennell's aid he has achieved a remarkable feat of description and analysis.

Success Magazine.

The September number of Success Magazine begins with an article by H. Addington Bruce entitled "Marvelous Master Sids," which treats of the educational heights reached by a boy of eleven. "Double-Crossing the Bar," Harris Dickson shows how prohibition is a paying proposition in the South. Eugene Wood tells us why and how we laugh in an article called "Why is the Laugh?" The editorial for the month is "Fascination for Achievement," by Orison Sweet Marston.

Among the stories of the month are "His Confidante," by William Hamilton Osborne; "The Big Moment in the Life of Ellen Andrews, Woods Boss," by Charles W. C. which has been most favorably criticized, and is said to be a valuable addition to the literature of the South; "The Scullery Maid's Dream," by Evelyn Van Buren, and "The Sky Man," by Henry Kitchell Webster. There are poems by Emory Pottle and Robert Haven Schaffer, and a full-page picture, feature, entitled "Cutting the Car's."

Mission Furniture.

A new book of general interest to readers is "Mission Furniture and How to Make It," a book published at 23 cents by Popular Mechanics, Chicago. It consists of practical, plainly written instructions for making and finishing twenty-one different pieces of this popular style of furniture; the text being accompanied by ninety detailed working drawings and half-ton illustrations.

Mrs. Lynch's Book.

B. W. Dodge, of New York, is the publisher of a "Year Book of Southern Poets," by Mrs. Harriet Powell Lynch, of Cheraw, S. C. which has been most favorably criticized, and is said to be a valuable addition to the literature of the South.

Woman's Home Companion.

A big section of the unusually big number is devoted to fashions. Experts in Paris and famous tailors and milliners in the United States have, with Grace Margaret Gould's knowledge of the American woman's taste, made the issue one that women will turn to for many a day. Not only gowns, coats, hats and waists, but the important little things, shoes, hosiery, fabrics, trimmings, coiffures—all are exhaustively handled.

There are plenty of good stories in the issue, the last hot day stories by Octave Thanet, Mrs. John Van Vorst, Katharine Holland Brown, Mary Heaton Vorse, and others, illustrated by such artists as James Montgomery Flagg and Alice Barber Stephens. Kate Douglas Wiggin's serial story of the Shakers, "Susan and Sue," is also in this issue. For the theatre-goer, Walter Prichard Eaton's article, "The Decent Stage," will prove a splendid guide, giving a list of the good, clean, successful plays that will appear outside of New York this fall.

A Baseball Number.

The Outing Magazine for September calls it a baseball number. Its leading article is "Baseball as the Bleachers Like It," by C. M. Van Loan, a man who, as a baseball reporter, has followed the game for many years, and has watched sensational plays that have brought the spectators to their feet. "Great Sports of Four Great Nations," is a series of full-page drawings in color, by C. F. Peters, showing some dramatic moments in baseball, skiing, cricket and lacrosse. In view of the Hudson-Pulsen celebration the article entitled "Three Hundred Years on the Hudson," by Arthur B. Reeve, is timely. It is a resume of the events that have made the Hudson the biggest little river of America, and is illustrated with photographs by Arthur Hewitt. "September the Month of Ripeness," by E. P. Powell, is a practical country-life article, full of the color of this rich fall month.

There are two good short stories, one by John Fleming Wilson, entitled "The Making of a Man," the second, a good animal story by Charles F. Holder, entitled "Don Coyote."

QUARANTINE RAISED

But Controversy With Health Officer Is Not Settled.

ALEXANDRIA, Aug. 28.—The quarantine recently placed on the old Braddock house was raised yesterday, but it appears that the differences between W. W. Simpson, the lessee of the building, and D. E. E. Gorman, the city health officer, are not at an end. Simpson having announced that he will not pay the fundation, which the health officer

## The Last Days of Our August Reduction Sale

Will mean great saving days for our customers. Many good bargains remain in the shape of Pianos and Inner-Player Pianos that must make room for new stock that is arriving daily. Come early Monday and make your selection.

Housekeepers who are preparing the home for fall and winter will find many attractive, useful and ornamental things at very low prices.

## Pianos and Inner-Players.

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The best instrument of its kind in the world. \$10.00 and up. Easy terms. All the new Records in stock the day they are issued each month. Come and hear them.

Inner-Player Pianos that have

been used for demonstrating purposes. Sell at \$65.00 to \$75.00. They will go at a Flat Discount of \$20.00. They are practically as good as the day they left the factory, but must go to make room for new goods.

25 or 30 Pianos, any of which

cost not less than \$250, and some of which were priced at \$700, all in good order—some slightly used, rented or second-hand—now selling

\$96 to \$300

Vocal and Instrumental

Music for Inner-Players, 50c

per roll and up.

Cabinets for Inner-Player

Music, exquisite designs, \$10.00

and up.

Roll Music for Electric

Pianos, four and five pieces to

the roll, \$2.50 per roll.

Cabinets for Talking Machine

Records, \$10.00 up.

Velour Piano Scarfs, latest

designs, best quality, \$2.50 up.

Justice Court to-day and remanded to

prison to await action of the grand jury.

When arrested they were in possession

of the horse and buggy stolen at

Roxboro which are now being cared for

by Justice Ferguson, of Riceville.

The horse stolen from Glenn last night

to John L. Hurt, of this county, and

Richardson's horse and buggy were

traded in Charlotte county. The horse

traded for was sold at Keyville for \$10.

THROWN FROM AUTO

H. K. McHarg Injured While Return-

ing from Dance.

ROANOKE, Va., August 28.—H. K.

McHarg, Jr., of Radford, and a party

attended a dance in Roanoke last night.

After the dance St. Elmo Ross joined

the party, which left for Montgomery

Yellow Sulphur Springs in McHarg's

automobile.

About two miles west of Christiansburg

the automobile struck an obstruction in

the road, and Ross, who was on the back

seat, fell off, striking his head on the

ground with great force. He was taken

to Christiansburg and physicians went

from Roanoke. He has not recovered

consciousness.

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Both men are less than twenty-five

years old and well dressed. They are

given a preliminary hearing before

LODGED IN JAIL

Two Men Are Arrested on Charge of

Homicide-Breaking.

CHATEAM, Va., August 28.—Stephen

Farnson and George Smith were

lodged in jail to-day charged with

stealing a horse belonging to A. Glenn,

of near South Boston, a horse and

buggy belonging to D. T. Richardson,

of Pittsylvania, and a horse and buggy

belonging to a hiveryman at Roxboro,

N. C. They were arrested yesterday

near Clarkton by Constable R. M.

Lewis, of Pittsylvania.

When Lewis was about seventy-five

yards from them they tried to escape

and did not give up until four shots

had been fired, one striking Farnson in

the shoulder.

Both men are less than twenty-five

years old and well dressed. They are

given a preliminary hearing before

THE GREAT ROUNTREE PRE-INVENTORY SALE WILL

Positively End Tuesday, August 31st.

Then the last chance for securing the highest grade

Leather Goods—Ladies' Hand Bags, Going-away Bags,

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At Cost and Below Cost

will have passed! September 1st will find us in our annual

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The prices will be still lower to-morrow and Tuesday—

the days must be record smashers—Red Letter Days—

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then the end.

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